

03500.008117.2



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	:	Examiner: Tammara R. Peyton
TOMISHIGE TAGUCHI	)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2182
Application No.: 09/312,823	)	
	:	Allowed: April 27, 2005
Filed: May 17, 1999	)	
	:	Confirmation No: 3090
For: ELECTRONIC APPARATUS HAVING	)	
CONNECTING MEANS	:	June 27, 2005

**Mail Stop Issue Fee**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

Applicant is in receipt of a Notice of Allowance dated April 27, 2005, in the above-referenced application. The Issue Fee is due on or before July 27, 2005, and is being paid concurrently herewith.

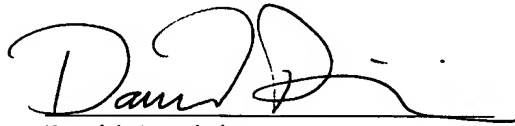
The Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance ("Statement") states that:

The prior art of record does not teach or suggest individually or in combination the limitation of a switching control unit arranged for controlling switching between obtaining a device driver program provided in the external device, for controlling the connected external device, and loading a device driver program existing in a memory area provided in said information processing apparatus, for controlling the connected external device, on the basis of the device type discriminated by said discrimination unit.

However, Applicant respectfully notes that this statement does not accurately characterize the features of independent Claims 234 and 237. Nevertheless, Applicant submits that those claims are allowable over the cited art for features recited therein.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David A. Divine", written over a horizontal line.

David A. Divine  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 51,275

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